

Amendments to the Specification

The specification is being amended to correct typographical and clerical errors. No new subject matter is being added.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, at line 23, and ending on page 8, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The enclosure includes a sheet metal housing 10 with removable hinged front and rear doors. For fiber optic patching applications, a removable hinged bulkhead 20 divides the housing into a front and rear compartment with the rear compartment being deeper than the front. Removable panels, which contain various numbers of fiber optic adapters, are mounted to the bulkhead ~~[[10]]~~ 20. In a typical application, fiber optic jumpers are routed to the front compartment for patching. Front access to the front compartment is through ports 22 at the top and bottom of both sides 12 with routing rings 24 positioned along a front management plate 26 mounted to the bottom of the housing 10 using nylatches 25 as shown in FIGs. 5 and 6. Front fiber management is improved by adding the ports at the top of each side with the ability to mount an additional front management plate 26 at the top of the housing 10. This feature can be used to accommodate applications in which the number of jumpers entering the enclosure is too great for the bottom ports alone. As noted above, current designs allow for management only on the bottom of an enclosure. Fiber radius guides 28, described further herein, are mounted to the housing to prevent sharp bends in the fiber as it enters the enclosure.

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, beginning at line 12, and ending at line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The splices can be mounted directly to the splice drawer or mounted in a removable splice tray such as the splice tray described above with respect to FIGs. 27 and 28. A predetermined amount of slack can also be managed by the splice drawer, allowing the splice to be removed for servicing. Pigtailed (ribbon) 900 are routed from the rear of the enclosure and into the splice drawer with enough slack to accommodate the sliding of the drawer. A recess 506 is provided by the offset bottom 508 to accommodate fiber storage. ~~[[hi]]~~ In an alternate embodiment, the drawer can be placed directly under the rear management plate in a flat bottomed enclosure with the fibers routed into the drawer for splicing.